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NURSING IN MISSION STATIONS

EXAMINATIONS

The examinations given by the Nurses' Association of China to students from registered schools were held the last week in May. This is the second time the examinations have been given and there was a vast improvement over the previous year. The board of examiners consists of two physicians appointed for a term of two years by the Medical Association of China, and two nurses appointed for the same length of time by the Nurses' Association. Twelve nurses registered, four withdrew just before the examinations. Eight took the examinations: two from Hunan, Yale Men's Hospital, Changsha; three from St. James' Woman's Hospital, Anking; two from the men's department of the same school, and one from the Magaw Memorial Hospital, Foochow. Seven nurses successfully passed, and three obtained honor. The Nurses' Association of China has every reason to feel encouraged.

MARY REED OGDEN, R.N.,
Examining Secretary.

CHRISTMAS AT WUSIH, CHINA

The third annual report of St. Andrew's Hospital includes a description by Annie Brown, R.N., of the nurse's work at that station:

The care of patients and general hospital routine is much improved, but our men are only attendants, not nurses.

In the women's ward I have been able to have a trained nurse in charge. Miss Yui, who has been with us ever since the hospital opened, left early in May to be married. Our new nurse comes from a mission hospital in Soochow. She is a recent graduate and received her training under the new and up-to-date nursing regulations. . . . The work among women patients has been most encouraging. There has been an increase in obstetrical work during the past year, and we are pleased to note that more of our Christian women are coming to us. We gladly welcome them, for as "a little leaven leavens the whole lump," so a few Christian patients scattered through the ward, help in our work among the heathen strangers. They come on a venture of faith, and imagine the comfort they find in having a "next-bed" neighbor who can tell them a little about the "queer foreigners" in charge! And when we come with our work of healing they are more willing to take our treatment and to listen to the doctrine we preach.

At Christmas time we were able, through the generosity and kindness of the Junior Auxiliary, of Charlottesville, Va., to give our patients the delightful pleasure of a real Christmas-tree. The tree was transplanted in a large box from our lawn to the hospital ward. It was a wonderful sight (reaching clear

to the ceiling) when trimmed in the beautiful ornaments from America. The charming little candy boxes of all shapes and colors were a delight to young and old. We had to have several parties in order that everybody might enjoy the tree but I think the most delightful gathering was that of the women and children on Christmas eve. We had sent out proper red invitations to all babies born in the hospital during the past year, and out of a total of fifteen, eight babies were brought by their mothers to the party. More would have come had they not lived too far away to come and return in one day. The mothers arrived early and entertained themselves and each other by comparing infants. The friendliness of them all was a pleasure to see. The little children from our Mission Day School came to sing Christmas carols and one of our Bible-women told the Christmas story, after which the tree was lighted and the boxes of candy and small gifts were distributed to the children. The mothers were treated to tea and sugared peanuts and watermelon seeds, the usual refreshments for a Chinese party. Immediately after the party two of our infants were taken to the Church for baptism.

ITEM

The Annual Conference of the Nurses' Association of China was held in Shanghai, August 30-September 4, at the China Inland Mission Hall. After an inspiring devotional service led by Dr. Beebe, Mrs. Fryer extended a hearty welcome. She called the attention of the guests to the many places of interest in Shanghai and to the plans which had been made for visits to many of the hospitals, the Commercial Press, the Institution for the Blind, etc. A reception was given to the delegates at Jessfield. On Friday evening, at the United Meeting with the Shanghai Medical Association, papers were read on "The Nurses' Position in the Hospitals of China" and "Coöperation in Hospital Planning," which were followed by very helpful discussions. That the Nurses' Association of China is active in raising nursing standards there is shown in the passage of an important measure which requires that a nurse before graduating from a hospital registered under the Nurses' Association of China must pass the Association examination in order to receive her hospital diploma. This will mean better educated and more efficient nurses for China. The Association has at present a membership of 132 active members and 13 associate members. This number includes the Chinese nurses who are rapidly coming to the front from the hospitals all over China and are taking their places in the various hospital positions open to them.